

## SSC NOLA ALL HANDS SCRIPT 2 FEB 2006

### **Reminder: Civilian Safe Haven will End on 24 February 2006**

This is a reminder that evacuation allowances for civilian employees and their family members are limited by law (5 U.S.C. 5523) to 180 days. For the Hurricane Katrina evacuation, allowances will end on 24 Feb 06, even if employees are still evacuated and permanent quarters are still uninhabitable. Employees should plan accordingly and ensure that they are able to manage the cost of temporary housing when allowances end. Employees may obtain assistance in locating affordable temporary and permanent housing from local Navy Housing Offices.

The DON Office of Civilian Human Resources submitted a legislative proposal to amend Title 5 of the United States Code to allow extension of evacuation allowances beyond 180 days. However, it is very unlikely that Congress will pass this proposal into law before the current allowances expire on 24 Feb 06. Because of this, we are planning as though it will not be extended.

With the expiration of Safe Haven on 24 Feb and the lack of availability of our buildings until approximately the end of April, we have assigned all government civilian personnel workspaces in the NOLA area with a reporting date of no later than 27 Feb (those occupying building 1-3 will begin occupying spaces on 15 Feb). The only exceptions to this provision are those TFARS personnel on command sponsored TDY in Millington and one individual with JCMS who will remain in Pensacola until mid-March.

Following this call, the PAO will forward an e-mail and attachment containing assigned work locations to all the current e-mail addresses we have and post the information on the SPAWAR website. If you do not receive this information by COB today, please contact your supervisor.

We have listed all government civilians in the command and for many already in NOLA, your designated worksite will be the seat you are currently occupying. Others who have wireless laptops will be moving from the trailers into building 1 to make room for those who need hard-wired NMCI connectivity that is only available in the trailers. Still others will be occupying spaces at the Port. The overall objective is to establish an updated workplace baseline that is New Orleans-area centered with accommodation for legitimate exceptions as appropriate.

Once you receive the e-mail or notification via your supervisor, you are expected to report on Monday, 27 February to the location assigned. If you are unable to report based on the fact that you do not have housing in the NOLA area or for any other reason you feel is legitimate, please immediately advise your supervisor **even if you feel your exception has already been approved**. Supervisors will forward that information to

their Department Directors who will in turn advise the Executive Director in writing with a list of circumstances and a recommendation for action. The Executive Director will approve or disapprove civilian requests for exceptions, and the individual will be notified of that decision via return correspondence. This intent of this approach is to ensure consistency in the handling of by-exception cases. As stated previously, it is required that all employees still needing housing will be on both the UNO trailer and NSA housing lists, and that they will accept this temporary housing once offered

## **100% Per Diem for Hurricane Katrina Safe Haven Extended for Military Members**

Full Per Diem for Hurricane Katrina has been extended until 24 February 2006. DUSD(MPP) Mr. Bill Carr has approved the latest extension of full per diem rates for dependents under the original safe haven authority also expiring 24 February 2006. As reported last week, a separate Department of the Navy request for Service Secretary discretionary application of safe haven extension or conversion to designated place was signed out by ASN(M&RA) and delivered to USD(P&R) on 20 January 2006. It is currently in Staffing at OSD GC and Comptroller. The signed extension letter for per diem will be e-mailed separately.

## **Last Call for Cubicle Content Pick-up from Garage**

Cubicle content pick-up resumed 1 February. Soon we will need to consolidate remaining boxes to a corner of the garage to make room for those requiring parking. We will continue to allow access to boxes as long as it is necessary and practical based on space needs. You are encouraged to make arrangements to pick up or dispose of items recovered from cubicles as soon as possible.

## **Special Act and On the Spot Awards**

From 26 August 2005 to the present, the personnel of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN) New Orleans performed outstanding Navy manpower and personnel support operations of major significance to the National defense of the United States despite great personal and professional challenges resulting from the devastation inflicted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. SPAWARSYSCEN New Orleans personnel exhibited great courage, resourcefulness, and dedication above and beyond the call of duty in continuing to execute the mission of the Command. During this period, the SPAWARSYSCEN New Orleans workforce took decisive action to safeguard the organization's people and assets, protect the systems it maintains and hosts for its customers, and continue providing services and support. With its employees geographically dispersed, and many dealing with the loss of homes and personal possessions, SPAWARSYSCEN New Orleans succeeded in producing products and delivering services based on pre-Katrina levels. Despite numerous emotional and

technical challenges inherent in dealing with the devastation of the Gulf Coast infrastructure, SPAWARSYSCEN New Orleans personnel remained focused on the importance of their duties. The following personnel will receive these awards. Congratulations to them all:

Special Act Awards:

James Christy  
Dwayne Green  
Larry Hoehn  
Devecchio Turner  
Ed Wallace

On the Spot Awards

Kathryn Bailey  
Moiria Mallerich  
Enola Merriman  
Keith Richardson  
Kathy Vargo

## **SPAWARRIOR of the Quarter**

Congratulations are in order for two of our own who have been selected as SPAWARRIORS of the Quarter for SPAWAR Systems Command for the 4th Quarter of 2005.

**LT Lois Tink and Dwayne Green** were selected for their extraordinary efforts prior to and in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to safeguard command assets and information systems. Their efforts allowed the command to continue providing mission-critical support to the Navy and to render manpower and personnel systems fully operational in less than 30 days from the hurricane's passage. Both individuals answered the call of duty to execute the command's COOP plans, despite the additional burden of planning for the evacuation and protection of their own homes and families.

## **Lightning Bolt Award**

Congratulations are in order for members of our Information Assurance and Network Security Teams. They were named as participating members of an effort that earned SPAWAR Headquarters Code 08 a Lightning Bolt Award. This synchronized team, with contingents located around the world, coordinated SPAWAR's efforts for the DoD-wide 29 November security stand-down to ensure that management, systems administrators, and end users had completed all preparatory requirements for the 29 November events. Included in this honor from SSC NOLA are Lucy Colangione, Karon Franks, Mike Hagan, Zina Flemings, Christopher Pote, Dwayne Green, Lionel Cannon, Betsy Green, Christopher LaFrance and Todd Olsen.